

ATTACHMENT C
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1-12. Please cancel these claims without prejudice.

13. (New) A system for sealing an opening of a plastic tank with a multilayer structure comprising at least one layer of high-density polyethylene and at least one internal barrier layer, constituted by a plastic plate welded to the wall of the tank in the location of the periphery of the opening, the plate itself is constituted by a multilayer structure also comprising at least one layer of high-density polyethylene and at least one internal barrier layer and whose external layer welded to the tank has a composition compatible with that of the layer constituting the external wall of the tank, wherein in the location where the external layer of said plate is welded to the layer constituting the external wall of the tank, said plate and said wall of the tank are superposed so that the number of superposed layers in this location equals the sum of the number of layers in said plate and the number of layers in the wall of the tank, and so that the barrier layer of said plate is not in continuity with the barrier layer of said tank.

14. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein said plate does not pass through said wall of the tank.

15. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein the tank and the plate comprise identical means for making them impermeable to liquids and gasses and are constituted by the same multilayer structure.

16. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein said plate is equipped with a conduit that does not pass through said plate.

17. (New) System according to claim 16, wherein said conduit is equipped with a seal in the location where said conduit passes through said plate.

18. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein the plate is attached to at least one accessory located on the side inside the tank.

19. (New) System according to claim 18, wherein the accessory is a liquid-vapor separator comprising a vapor escape conduit that passes through the plate via a hole.

20. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein the plate is constituted by a multilayer structure comprising two complete structures identical to that of the walls of the tank, stacked on top of each other and resulting from the compression of two structures identical to the walls of the tank.

21. (New) System according to claim 13, wherein the wall of the tank carries mounting pins in the vicinity of the opening.

22. (New) A method for sealing an opening of a plastic tank with a multilayer structure comprising at least one layer of high-density polyethylene and at least one internal barrier layer, by means of a plastic plate also comprising at least one layer of high-density polyethylene and at least one internal barrier layer, according to which the plate is welded to the external layer of the tank in the location of the periphery of the opening, the welded plate having a multilayer structure whose external layer welded to the tank has a composition that is compatible with the composition of the external layer of the tank, wherein said plate is welded so that in the location where an external layer of said plate is welded to the layer constituting the external wall of the tank, said plate and said wall of the tank are superposed so that the number of superposed layers equals the number of layers in said plate and the number of layers in the wall of the tank, and so that the barrier layer of said plate is not in continuity with the barrier layer of said tank.

23. (New) Method according to claim 22, wherein at least one accessory is attached by welding to the plate, on the side inside the tank.

24. (New) Method according to claim 23, wherein at least one accessory is welded to the plate prior to sealing the opening of the tank by welding the plate carrying the accessory to the periphery of this opening.

25. (New) Method according to claim 23, wherein at least one accessory is attached to the internal wall of the tank adjacent to the opening prior to sealing the tank by simultaneously welding the plate to the accessory and to the periphery of the opening.

26. (New) Method according to claim 22, wherein the wall of the tank is supported in the vicinity of the opening during the operation for welding the plate by means of pins molded onto this wall.

27. (New) Method according to claim 22, wherein the tank is a fuel tank for a motor vehicle.